

Birmingham Theological Seminary
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Fall 2019

ST3529 Systematic Theology IV

Professor: Dr. Jay Haley

Class Hours: 2

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COURSE PURPOSE

This course is a study of the Soteriology. Included in the course will be a study of the doctrine of common grace, the doctrine of the Holy Spirit in the work of salvation, the doctrine of union with Christ, and a detailed examination of the order of salvation. In presenting the order of salvation the doctrines of the nature of the Gospel, effectual calling, regeneration, conversion, repentance, faith, justification, adoption, sanctification and perseverance of the saints will be examined from a Biblical and Reformed understanding.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. The student will gain an overview of the nature God's gracious work of salvation.
2. The student will be able to articulate a Reformed understanding of soteriology.
3. The student will gain knowledge of the person and work of the Holy Spirit.
4. The student will develop a deeper understanding of the relationship of regeneration, faith, justification, and sanctification from a Biblical and Reformed perspective.

COURSE TEXTS

Required Texts:

Berkhof, Louis. *Systematic Theology*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans Publishing, 1996.
(Part IV – The Doctrine of the application of Redemption – pgs. 415-549)

*Ferguson, Sinclair. *The Holy Spirit*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1996. **(Certificate)**

*Murray, John. *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*. Grand Rapids, Mich: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1955. (Read pgs. 79-181)

The Westminster Confession of Faith & Catechisms (Chaps. 9-19)

Logos Bible Software **(Masters Students Only)**

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

*Book Critiques

1. Read texts: the Berkhof book is to be read in conjunction with the Systematic Theology IV supplement/outline. The subject headings of the supplement/outline coincide with the chapter headings in the book and the lectures.
2. **Masters Students** write a theological paper choose one of the following topics:
 - Regeneration
 - Justification
 - Sanctification
 - Adoption
 - Perseverance of the Saints

This paper should include the following:

- A. Title page
 - B. Table of contents
 - C. Introduction
 - D. Thesis statement
 - E. Body (should include)
 - a) Definition of the doctrine
 - b) Historical overview of the doctrine
 - c) Biblical defense of the doctrine
 - d) Application of the doctrine to your discipline of study
 - e) Conclusion - giving a summary of the paper's contents
 - f) Footnotes – approximately two per page.
 - g) Bibliography with at least 15 references (**50% must come from Logos Bible Software**)
 - h) Paper should be no less than twelve pages and no more than fifteen pages - typed (double spaced; *Times New Roman* 12 point type)
 - i) Papers without footnotes or bibliography will receive a **zero**.
3. **Certificate students** type a **six to eight page** essay on Regeneration, Justification or Sanctification. Still must identify your sources in Turabian footnotes, using at least 5 sources.
 - A. The essay must define the respective doctrine, provide a brief historical overview, and provide a brief defense, an application and conclusion. This requires being both concise and precise.
 4. Read and summarize The Westminster Confession of Faith & Catechisms (Chaps. 9-19). This summary requires that you to understand the statements you find in the confession. You must clearly and fully summarize each of these sections in modern easy to understand language. You will be graded on how clearly to can state the teachings of the confession while retaining the original meaning. Please provide a cover page and follow standard Turabian formatting.

5. Book Critique is to be a **three page critique** of the book. Do not merely summarize the contents; rather evaluate the book's strengths and weaknesses. As you read, ask yourself and answer these questions, read **critically**: (**Masters complete all steps**)
- ☞ Begin your critique with **the bibliographic information** (Title, author, publisher, place and date of publication) of the book you have chosen to critique. (**Certificate**)
 - ☞ Write a **brief summary** of the **main** theme and any **major secondary themes** of the author. I do not want a book review. I already know the content. Just give me enough to show you have read and digested the material. (**Certificate**)
 - ☞ Include your **analysis** of the arguments the author sets forth. Your analysis should be focused primarily upon **how faithfully you think the author has interpreted and applied the Scripture**.
 - ☞ **Evaluate** how they have either **succeeded or failed** in taking into account **all** of Scripture (in other words, is it a systematic argument or simply a use of some isolated proof texts?) **citing instances** from the book to support your evaluation.
 - ☞ Tell me **why you agree or disagree** with their conclusion(s), using the Scriptures to support any differing views you may hold. (**Certificate**)
 - ☞ Conclude with a paragraph that states **what you have gained personally and professionally** from reading this book. (**Certificate**)

5. Comprehensive Examination: The final requires you to discuss all the major doctrines covered in this course. You will need to know the Biblical pictures, components and privileges listed about many of the doctrines discussed in the order of salvation. The final is made up of short answer and essay questions.

You will need to be able to:

- I. List (In order) and define all terms relating to the order of salvation.
- II. Discuss the Scriptural support for the major doctrines covered in the course.
- III. Discuss the relationships between the different doctrines covered under to topic of the order of salvation.

GRADING

1. Theological Paper	35% (Masters Students)
2. Essay	35 % (Certificate Students)
3. Book critiques	20%
4. Westminster Summary	10%
5. Final Examination	35%

Course Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
October 1	Ferguson Critique Due
October 22	Murray Critique Due
November 5	Westminster Paper Due
November 19	Research/Essay Paper Due
December 3	Final Exam

BTS FORMAT AND STYLE STANDARDS

Note: BTS uses the Turabian style of formatting as a standard for papers. However, students should regard individual professor preferences if they communicate any variance in outlining their requirements for papers. Professors retain discretion in determining how “formal” a paper must be. In this technological age, information is readily available; make sure that you understand about giving reference sources the proper recognition.

Course Outline

See printed *Systematic IV* instructional syllabus for course outline/supplement for development.

Bibliography

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George, Timothy. Theology Of The Reformers. Nashville, Tennessee: Broadman Press, 1988.

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M'Clintock, John. Cyclopedia Of Biblical, Theological, and Ecclesiastical Literature. 10 vols. New York, N.Y.: Harpers and Brothers Publishers, 1867.

McGrath, Alister E. Historical Theology. Malden, Massachusetts: Blackwell Publishers, 1998.

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Sheldon, Henry C. History Of Christian Doctrine. 3 vols. New York, N.Y.: Eaton and Mains, 1906.

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Vos, Geerhardus. Biblical Theology. Grand Rapids , Michigan: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1948.

Warfield, Benjamin,B. The Works Of Benjamin B. Warfield. 10 Vols. New York, New York: 1932; reprint, Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1981.

The Westminster Confession Of Faith. Atlanta, Georgia: C.E.&P, 1990.